

*Allen:
Review this and
tell to me about it:
if it is to be sufficient
for site specific clearance
Jack*

AMERICAN GILSONITE COMPANY

1150 KENNECOTT BUILDING

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84133

T. C. MOSELEY
SECRETARY-TREASURER

May 26, 1977

Area Mining Supervisor
U. S. Department of the Interior
Geological Survey
8426 Federal Building
Salt Lake City, Utah 84138

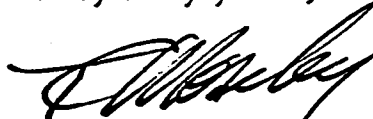
Attention: Mr. Allen Vance

Dear Mr. Vance:

Enclosed is a copy of the archeological survey of our Federal
Gilsonite leases.

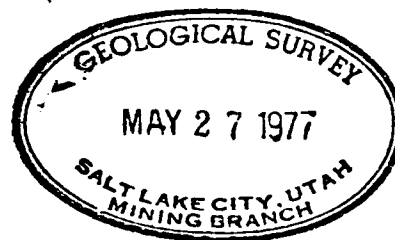
The photos did not reproduce but if they are important to you,
they are on file with the Utah Division of State History.

Very truly yours,

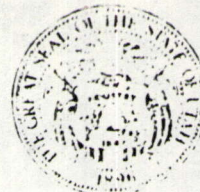

T. C. MOSELEY

TCM:cm

Enc:



May 17, 1977



STATE OF UTAH

Calvin L. Rampton, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Division of State History

Melvin T. Smith, Director
603 East South Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84102
Telephone: (801) 533-5755

Mr. T. C. Moseley
Secretary-Treasurer
American Gilsonite Company
1150 Kennecott Building
Salt Lake City, UT 84133

Dear Mr. Moseley:

Please find enclosed a report of archeological surveys conducted by the Antiquities Section on National Resource Land for American Gilsonite Company.

Two archeological sites and one paleontological site were identified on the survey. The location of site 42Un554, immediately adjacent to the Independent Gilsonite Vein in lease area U-0126942, will be threatened by development.

If you have any questions regarding the survey, please feel free to inquire.

Please find enclosed a bill covering the three additional days' field time and two days for preparation of the final report. The cost is \$625.00 total (\$125.00 per day). Please make check payable to Utah Division of State History, 603 East South Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84102.

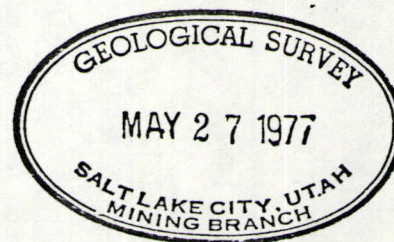
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "La Mar W. Lindsay".

La Mar W. Lindsay
Asst. State Archeologist

LWL:ap

cc: Richard E. Fike
Division of Resources
Bureau of Land Management
Lloyd Ferguson
Bureau of Land Management
Vernal District



ARCHEOLOGICAL SURVEYS
IN THE BONANZA/WHITE RIVER AREA,
UINTAH COUNTY, UTAH

by

La Mar W. Lindsay

Prepared Under the Direction
of

David B. Madsen
Antiquities Section
Division of State History
State of Utah

for

American Gilsonite Company
Salt Lake City

and

Bureau of Land Management
Vernal District
Vernal, Utah

May 6, 1977

INTRODUCTION

Archeological surveys were performed by the Antiquities Section, Division of State History, in seven gilsonite lease areas for American Gilsonite Company, Salt Lake City, Utah. The surveys were performed under the direction of David B. Madsen, State Archeologist, and supervision of La Mar W. Lindsay under the Bureau of Land Management Antiquities Permit Number 77-UT-011. Crew members for the four field days, (December 14, 1976; May 4-6, 1977), included Kay Sargent, Suesan W. Taylor, and Tom Zeidler.

The gilsonite veins in each lease area were traversed to 50 m. on each side. Intervals of no greater than 30 m. were maintained during the survey. The gilsonite veins were, for the most part, easily followed with surficial deposits exposed along all routes. Also, stakes were located denoting the locations of several of the veins. In addition, all vein locations were plotted by American Gilsonite on U.S.G.S. topographic maps. Only the access routes to Little Emma (U-0126938) were available. These were followed to existing roadways. The remaining routes, once they are finalized, will be surveyed upon request. The results of additional work will be submitted as an addendum to this final report.

Archeological (and paleontological) sites are plotted on topographic maps. Archeological sites are assigned numbers of the Smithsonian trinomial system. The paleontological site is undesignated. The inventory is submitted to the Bureau of Land

Management, Vernal District. Site inventories with photographs are attached to this report. Only one artifact, a diagnostic projectile point, was collected. The point, which was found lying on the vein in the Independent lease area (U-0126942), will be forwarded to the Utah Museum of Natural History, University of Utah.

The cooperation and assistance of Messrs. Lloyd Ferguson, District Manager, Ralph Heft, and Dean Evans of the Bureau of Land Management, Vernal District, is acknowledged. Mr. Neldon Kunz, Mining Engineer, American Gilsonite, provided the locational data. Kay Sargent and Amy Pringle of the Antiquities Section are credited with the photography and typing of the manuscript, respectively.

LOCATION AND SETTING

The region (Fig. 1) lies ca. 80 mi. southeast of the Uinta Mountains on the northern Colorado Plateau physiographic province (Fenneman 1931). The area is drained by the White River and other tributaries of the Green River. Seven lease areas, all lying north of the White River, are variously located (see maps, Appendix I):

- 1) U-0703071 - Wagon Hound Vein: SW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 27, T. 9 S., R. 24 E. (U.S.G.S. Bonanza 7.5 Min. Quadrangle).
- 2) U-060748 - Little Bonanza Vein (Cabinet): SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 23, T. 9 S., R. 24 E. (U.S.G.S. Bonanza 7.5 Min. Quadrangle).

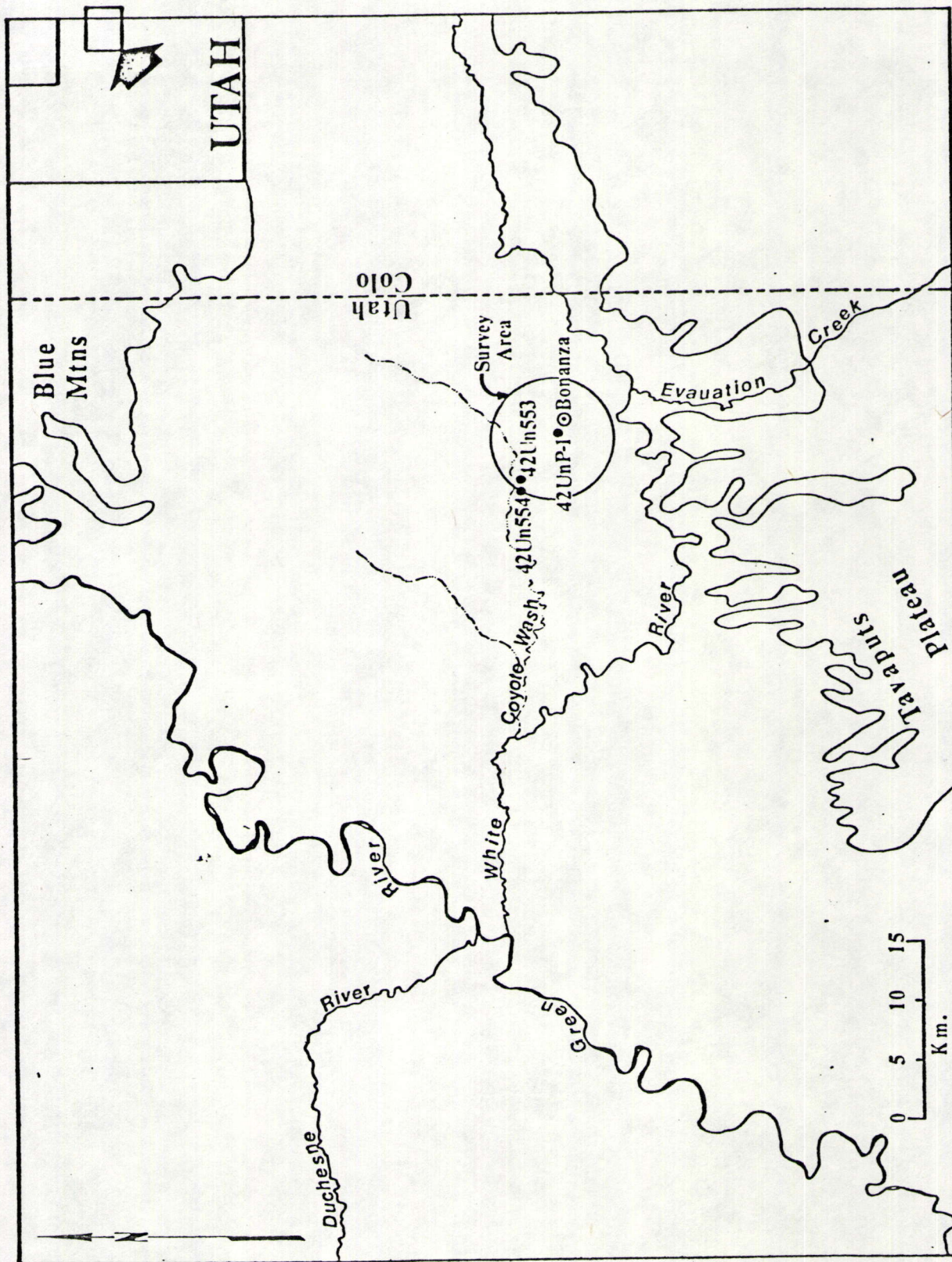


Fig. 1. Location map.

- 3) U-060749 - Wagon Hound Vein: NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 35, T. 9 S., R. 24 E. (U.S.G.S. Southam Canyon 7.5 Min. Quadrangle).
- 4) U-0126938 - Little Emma: NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 30, T. 9 S., R. 24 E. (U.S.G.S. Red Wash SE 7.5 Min. Quadrangle).
- 5) U-0126940 - Little Bonanza: NE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 17, T. 9 S., R. 24 E. (U.S.G.S. Bonanza 7.5 Min. Quadrangle).
- 6) U-0126942 - Independent Vein: SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 1, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 12, T. 9 S., R. 23 E.; NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 7, T. 9 S., R. 24 E. (U.S.G.S. Red Wash and Bonanza 7.5 Min. Quadrangle).
- 7) U-0126943 - Wagon Hound: SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 28, T. 9 S., R. 24 E. (U.S.G.S. Bonanza 7.5 Min. Quadrangle).

The leases are found within a ca. 10 mi. dia. area which is bounded by the White River on the south; the town of Bonanza and highway U-45 on the east; Coyote Wash on the north; and the Chapita Wells Gas Field on the west. The area is an arid, mid-latitude desert-steppe which is extremely desiccated. The ca. 10 mi. dia. survey area is without springs or perennial streams. The White River on the southern periphery flows westward (ca. 30 mi.) to the Green. The terrain consists of a number of washes which, in the southern portion trend southward to the White River, and in the north to Coyote Wash.

The topography is irregular, particularly toward the south where deep washes are cut enroute to the river. Low lying buttes

and knolls, remnants of the Duchesne and Uinta Formations (James H. Madsen 1977, personal communication) dominate the landscape throughout the area. The valleys are filled with poorly developed sandy clay soils; eolian sand dunes have formed in the northwest portion of the area.

The mid-latitude dry climate produces annual precipitation averages of about 10 in/yr. (Burnham 1950). A sizable percentage of this moisture falls in the form of brief, torrential thunder-showers during the summer months. Temperatures range from below 0° F. during some winters to 110° F. in the summers. These climatic parameters and other edaphic factors produce saltbush/sagebrush plant communities which dominate the region. The relative proportions of sage to saltbush increase with elevation and the decreasing salinity. Rabbitbrush, prickly pear cactus, and grasses are minor components. Cottonwoods and willows are found along the White River.

- Wild game species including deer, antelope, and rabbits were observed during the survey. The sign of these species was noted throughout the area. Geese and ducks were observed along the river.

CULTURAL AND RESEARCH CONTEXTS

An exhaustive review of the history of archeological research is not presented. This is available from a number of sources (e.g., Gunnerson 1957; Marwitt 1970; Berry and Berry 1976). Until recently, the prehistory of the White River area was virtually unknown. The archeological research of northeastern

Utah was primarily confined to lands immediately adjacent to the Green River (Gunnerson 1969) and on the southern piedmont of the Uinta Mountains (see Marwitt 1970). Most researchers, under the spell of Southwestern grandeur, concentrated on investigations of Fremont (ca. 1450-750 B.P.) agricultural, pottery-bearing sites, many of which contained surface masonry. Consequently, the prehistory of the Uinta Basin for this period of aboriginal cultural development became proportionately better known.

More recently, pre-agricultural, Archaic developments (ca. 9,500-3,000 B.P.), better known from the Great Basin (Jennings 1957; Aikens 1970) have been investigated on the northern Plateau (Breternitz 1970; Leach 1967). This research is reviewed in a recent report of an archeological "inventory" of the White River area (Berry and Berry 1976). The proto-historic and historic Numic (Ute) (ca. 1300 B.P. - ethnographic and historic times) were also present but remain poorly documented (Madsen 1975). Indications of Paleo-Indian occupance (ca. 12,500 - 9,000 B.P.) remain scant by comparison. Folsom fluted points (ca. 11,000 - 9,000 B.P.) are best known from the Uinta Basin (Crouse 1954; Lindsay 1976) and the divide between the Green and Colorado rivers (Hunt and Tanner 1960). Madsen, Currey and Madsen (1976) have reviewed the evidence for Early Man in Utah.

In sum, the prehistory of the White River area, and indeed Utah, remains "spotty." This is in part due to the piecemeal fashion in which it has been gathered, and is a function of

both investigator interests and biases, and the proscriptions and limitations of salvage archeology. Still, we would expect the full temporal range of prehistoric cultural development to be at least minimally represented, particularly along the major water courses in the region.

ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES

The survey of White River oil shale lands (Berry and Berry 1976) demonstrated that archeological sites are primarily concentrated along and in proximity to the White River. It was expected then, that of the seven lease areas, Wagon Hound Vein (U-060749) ca. 1 mi. north of the river, had the greatest site potential; however such was not the case. Only two archeological sites (see attached reports) were identified on the survey and these are found in the northwesternmost Independent lease area (U-0126942):

Site 42Un553 is an isolated corner-notched projectile point (Fig. 2), found on the surface in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 7, T. 9 S., R. 24 E. (U.S.G.S. Red Wash SE 7.5 Min. Quadrangle).

Site 42Un554 is an open campsite located in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 7, T. 9 S., R. 24 E. The site consists of several cores and crude percussion flaked preforms, (1) hammerstone, and (1) large gray quartzite flake. The remaining lithics were of yellow or red chert. One whole mano and a fragment half were also observed. The artifacts and fire-cracked rock were found lying on a heavily weathered caliche/clay surface at the base of an eolian sand deposit (Fig. 3).